

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF LENA HORNE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1362, which honors the tremendous accomplishments of the late Lena Mary Calhoun Horne, who passed away on May 9, 2010 at the age of 92. Born in 1917 in Brooklyn, NY, Lena Horne was one of the most prolific and accomplished performers of her time. At the young age of 16, Ms. Horne began her career when she joined the chorus line of the famous Cotton Club in Harlem. Over the years, her phenomenal talent garnered increasing critical acclaim and widespread recognition, as she became one of the most prominent figures in American entertainment.

I thank Chairman TOWNS for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congressman CONYERS for honoring the legacy of this superb American actress and songstress.

Despite the segregation-era law that prohibited African Americans from playing leading roles in white films or plays, Ms. Horne's talent attracted widespread national attention. She was beloved for her part in the 1943 musical *Cabin in the Sky*. Additionally, for her role in the *Calypso* musical *Jamaica*, Ms. Horne was nominated for a Tony Award for "Best Actress in a Musical."

Ms. Horne's musical career was equally impressive. In 1957, her live album entitled *Lena Horne at the Waldorf-Astoria* became the best selling album by a female recording artist in the history of the RCA-Victor label. In the 1950s, Ms. Horne appeared in a number of popular television shows including, *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *The Dean Martin Show*, *The Judy Garland Show*, and *The Andy Williams Show*.

Lena Horne's pursuits were not limited to the stage. She was an outspoken activist committed to fighting racism and Jim Crow. She attended the 1963 March on Washington where Dr. Martin Luther King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech and performed on behalf of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and the National Council of Negro Women. During World War II, she refused to perform before segregated audiences and protested shows in which German Prisoners of War were seated in front of African American soldiers.

I salute the artistic talent and inspirational life led by Lena Horne. I commend her contribution to the richness of American performance art and vocal stances against oppression and discrimination. Lena Horne captivated and inspired a nation and she will be greatly missed.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1362.

UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ROCKET AND MISSILE DEFENSE CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I have always supported Israel's security and condemned unequivocally violence inflicted upon Israeli and Palestinian civilians. Recognizing the defensive nature of the Iron Dome anti-missile defense system, designed to guard against short-range rocket, missile, and mortar attacks which threaten the lives of innocent Israeli citizens, I voted yes on H.R. 5327.

However, I must express my serious concerns regarding continued and increasing trends of militarization in the region. The soaring costs associated with an unending cycle of military buildup, both human and financial, cannot be ignored in the context of the suffering that continued tensions have inflicted upon Israeli and Palestinian civilians alike. All parties involved must redouble their efforts and resources dedicated to realizing a just and lasting peace between the Israelis, Palestinians and the Arab world, including by refraining from gestures that would jeopardize the progress or viability of meaningful negotiations.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I want to speak to the issue of the urgent need to realign our national security spending priorities—a realignment we must make within the context of both overall U.S. national security interests and in relation to our vital domestic requirements. We in the Congress must focus on the difficult choices associated with reducing our Nation's unsustainable military spending and on investments that will more effectively provide for our enduring security, and that of our allies. We must invest in our people, their education and our economy—always the backbone of our national security. As we scale back the military spending element of our national security investment, we must fill some of that vacuum with smart and highly leveraged investments in regional stability programs, including in the Middle East. Whatever the short-term and tactical defense merit of any one weapon system, such as is claimed for the Iron Dome anti-missile defense system, it pales into insignificance when compared to successfully building regional economic development and confidence building.

A MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I wish to honor our fallen veterans this Memorial Day on May 31, 2010. On Memorial Day, we pay homage to the thousands and thousands of individual acts of bravery and sacrifice that stretch back to the battlefields of our revolution and to those taking place today in the deserts of Iraq and the mountains of Afghanistan.

Today we honor and remember four brave soldiers from Moorestown, NJ who lost their lives in combat. Mr. Walter Seel Jr., Mr. Howard Mayer, Mr. George Yohnson, and Mr. Roger Ross were all killed in action during the Vietnam War. They are our Nation's heroes who fought so bravely and made the ultimate sacrifice to defend the American Dream.

I will never stop fighting to ensure we do right by the men and women who serve our Nation and defend our freedom. As we observe Memorial Day this year, I ask all of my colleagues and fellow Americans to pause and reflect on the centuries of sacrifice by the many men and women that this day represents. And let us make sure that all who served with honor are honored in return.

IN HONOR OF CHASE THOMPSON PHILLIPS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 2010

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chase Thompson Phillips, a young man that I have known for sixteen years.

In June, he will graduate from Mexia High School as a Distinguished Honor Graduate. Chase is a member of the National Honor Society and the baseball team. This year, he and his doubles partner, Blake Dornak, competed in the State Tennis Tournament in Austin, Texas. They are the first duo from Mexia High School to qualify for the state competition and they made it to the quarterfinal round of the 3A State Tennis Tournament. This feat is particularly impressive since Chase and Blake did not have the guidance of tennis coaches or benefit from any practice matches. It speaks loudly of Chase's work ethic and dedication.

This year, he received the Dallas Safari Club's Colin Caruthers Younger Hunger Award for his passion for hunting and commitment to community service. Started in 1991, this prestigious award honors young member hunters for their significant accomplishments, academic excellence, and civic involvement. He was previously honored with the International Youth Hunting and Conservation Award from

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